

REMARKS

Claims 2 - 3, 5 - 10, 12 - 16 and 31 remain pending in the application. Claims 1, 4, 11, 17 - 30 and 32 have been cancelled. New claims 33 and 34 have been added.

Claim 9 has been amended to be dependent on claim 2. Claims 17 - 21 are cancelled. Therefore, the rejection under § 112, second paragraph, is believed to be overcome.

Claims 1 - 3, 5, 6, 8, 10, 31 and 32 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Filo in view of Rekimoto. Claims 11 - 16 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Hansen in view of Rekimoto. Claim 1 is now replaced with new claim 33. Claim 11 is replaced with new claim 34.

Filo does not disclose a camera as a sensor to capture the image of a naked finger or naked hand of the user. In Filo, the user wears a glove which acts as the sensor and as the pointing device. Filo needs a virtual glove with a hand tracker as well as a switchable button inside the glove. In the present invention, the sensor (camera) is remote from the pointing device (naked hand or naked finger).

Rekimoto discloses a camera that detects special wavelength range different from that of the display image. The camera in the present invention detects visible light which can be the same or substantially overlapping with that of the display image. As a result, in Rekimoto, the user's naked hand or finger is behind the display, whereas in the present invention, the user's naked hand or finger is in front of the display. In Rekimoto, there is a semitransparent screen onto which a display image is projected, and the semitransparent screen is irradiated with electromagnetic waves that are in a different wavelength range than the wavelength range of the image projected. Therefore, it would not be obvious to use the interaction of the naked hand or finger disclosed in Rekimoto for the system in Filo. The system of Filo and Rekimoto are incompatible. Therefore, independent claims 33 and 34 are believed to be allowable over Filo and Rekimoto.

Hansen detects an optical pointer against the display background. The Applicant of the present invention detects a naked hand or finger against any background. In summary, Hansen detects the laser pointer spot against the display background. The subject invention detects the naked hand or finger without the display background. The Hansen patent could not function with only using a naked hand or finger.

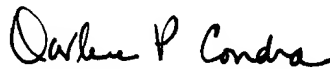
For the same reasons as discussed above, it would not be obvious to combine the teachings of Rekimoto with the teachings of Hansen to provide for the present invention. Therefore, claims 33 and 34 are believed to be allowable over Hansen and Rekimoto.

It is respectfully submitted that this Amendment traverses and overcomes all of the Examiner's objections and rejections to the application as originally filed. It is further submitted that this Amendment has antecedent basis in the application as originally filed, including the specification, claims and drawings, and that this Amendment does not add any new subject matter to the application. Reconsideration of the application as amended is requested. It is respectfully submitted that this Amendment places the application in suitable condition for allowance; notice of which is requested.

If the Examiner feels that prosecution of the present application can be expedited by way of an Examiner's Amendment, the Examiner is invited to contact the Applicant's attorney at the telephone number listed below.

Respectfully submitted,

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